AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as indicated in the listing below. This listing replaces all prior listing of

the claims.

1.   (Currently Amended) A method of monitoring and controlling a manufacturing process

to enable~~ensure~~ at least one manufactured product to meet~~meets~~ at least one specification, the

method comprising the steps of:

        providing at least one key process indicator (KPI) ~~platform~~ dashboard with a

statistical process control (SPC) subsystem for at least one manufacturing sub-process;

        automatically collecting ~~and storing~~ product specific data ~~in the same at least one~~

~~database~~ from the manufacturing sub-process through at least one data collecting

apparatus as a function of time;

        storing said product specific data in at least one database;

        setting at least one ~~range of specifications~~ specification for the at least one

product and the at least one manufacturing sub-process;

        accessing the ~~single~~ at least one database with the KPI dashboard;

        utilizing the SPC subsystem to set a ~~range of alarms~~ at least one alarm for the at

least one product and the at least one manufacturing sub-process; ~~based on the collected~~

~~and stored data;~~ and

        comparing the product specific data ~~to~~ with the at least one ~~range of alarms~~ alarm

and/or the at least one ~~range of specifications~~ specification and notifying at least one user

in real time when the product specific data ~~falls outside of~~ triggers the at least one ~~range~~

~~of alarms~~ alarm and/or the at least one ~~range of specifications~~ specification.

2.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the collecting and storing product specific data steps comprise ~~comprises~~ automatically collecting and storing a first ~~piece of~~ product specific data in the at least one database and manually collecting and storing ~~a second~~ at least one piece of second product specific data in the same at least one database.

3.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of storing ~~least one piece of~~ product identifying data and ~~at least one piece of~~ manufacturing plant specific data together in the at least one database.

4.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of allowing the user to select at least one manufacturing sub-process through the KPI dashboard.

5.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 3~~4~~, wherein the automatically collecting and storing the product specific data steps comprise ~~collects and stores~~ collecting and storing at least one measure specific to the at least one selected manufacturing sub-process that enables the manufactured product to meet the at least one specification.

6.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[4]]5, wherein the setting of the at least one ~~range of specifications~~ specification step comprises setting at least one range of specifications for the at least one measure and the setting of the at least one alarm step comprises setting at least one range of alarms for the measure.

7.   (Canceled)

8.   (Canceled)

9.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6, further comprising the step of entering into the at least one database a reason for the collected measure falling outside of the at least one range of alarms and/or specifications.

10.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9, further comprising the step of entering a

corrective action into the at least one database, ~~that~~ which was taken to prevent the at least one

measure from falling outside of the at least one range of alarms and/or specifications.

11.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of generating

at least one report based on the product specific data stored in the at least one database.

12.   (Currently Amended) A method of monitoring at least one manufacturing process for at

least one manufacturing plant, the method comprising the steps of:

        entering ~~at least one piece of~~ product identifying data for at least one product into

a first data entry field;

        entering ~~at least one piece of~~ manufacturing plant specific data into a second data

entry field;

        assigning at least one data collecting apparatus to at least one manufacturing sub-

process that produces the at least one product;

        automatically collecting a first ~~at least one piece of~~ product specific data with the

at least one collecting data apparatus from the at least one manufacturing sub-process as a

function of time; and

        storing the product identifying data, the plant specific data and the first product

specific data together in at least one database.

13.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12, further comprising the step of manually

collecting a second ~~at least one piece of~~ product specific data from the at least one product and

entering the data in the same at least one database that stores the product identifying data, the

plant specific data and the first product specific data.

14.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12, further comprising the step of setting at least one range of specifications for the first ~~at least one piece of~~ product specific data.

15.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 14, further comprising the step of notifying the user in real time when the ~~at least one piece of~~ first product specific data falls outside the at least one range of specifications.

16.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 14, further comprising the step of setting ~~an~~ at least one alarm within the at least one range of specifications.

17.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 16, further comprising the step of notifying the user in real time when the ~~at least one piece of~~ first product specific ~~process~~ data triggers the alarm.

18.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 13, further comprising the step of generating at least one report from the ~~at least one piece of~~ product identifying data, the ~~at least one piece of~~ plant specific data, the automatically collected first ~~at least one piece of~~ product specific data, and the second ~~at least one piece of~~ product specific data stored in the same at least one database.

19.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12, further comprising the step of ~~allowing~~enabling at least one user to access the at least one database in order to track the at least one product through ~~each~~at least one step of the at least one manufacturing sub-process.

20.   (Currently Amended) A method of allowing a user to ~~directly~~ access a plant management database and configure and manipulate the data stored therein, the method comprising:

        providing at least one piece of manufacturing equipment capable of producing at least one product;

collecting automatically a first ~~at least one piece of~~ product specific data from the at least one piece of manufacturing equipment <u>as a function of time</u>;

entering manually ~~a~~ second ~~-~~ product specific data for the at least one product produced from the manufacturing equipment;

setting at least one range of specifications and at least one range of alarms for the at least one product;

storing the first ~~at least one piece of~~ product data, the second ~~at least one piece of~~ product <u>specific</u> data, the at least one range of specifications, and the at least one range of alarms together in the same at least one database; and

comparing the first <u>product specific data</u> ~~and~~ <u>with the</u> second product <u>specific</u> data to the at least one range of alarms and<u>/or</u> the at least one range of specifications and notifying at least one user <u>in real time</u> when ~~either~~ the first ~~of~~ product specific data and/or the <u>second product <u>specific</u> data falls outside of the at least one range of alarms <u>and/</u>or the at least one range of specifications.

21.   (Canceled)

22.   (Canceled)

23.   (Canceled)

24.   (Canceled)

25.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 20, further comprising the step of generating at least one report based on the <u>first product specific data and/or the second product specific data</u> ~~first and second product data~~ stored in the at least one database.

26. – 28. (Canceled)